

Prayer Update 1060

Wednesday 9 March 2022

God's Word for this week ...

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. (Proverbs 14:34)

The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it, if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it. And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it. (Jeremiah 18:7-10)

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour who desires all to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Pray for the Nation – the Aims

To glorify God by uniting Christians throughout the nation in praying regularly and specifically for our nation, the government, and the Church; for revival and evangelism.

The third and fourth aims are: **3. Pray for our nation.** **4. Pray for our government.**

3. The verses above make it quite clear that if a nation is to be lifted up (exalted) it needs to follow **God's** ways of righteousness – living in the way which **God** says is right. To the extent to which we follow right ways, our nation will be blessed – its people, its government, its morality, its compassion, its unity, and so on. But if a nation does not stand against wrong, its people will be harmed – physically, mentally, socially, spiritually; there will be confusion of ideas and disunity between its people groups. It is a “reproach” (shame) to the nation, and will not help its people. *God's ways are always the best ways*, whether we believe it or not, like it or not, and we suffer to the extent to which we do not follow them. This applies not only to Christians, but all people – for God is love, God who knows, God who has all wisdom! He knows best and He know what is best! Hence Jesus said, “Follow Me.” The nation we live in is the sum of the ways its people live – good or bad, right or wrong, beneficial or harmful, blessing or reproach.

4. In the ‘democracy’ in which we live, at least theoretically, we get the government the majority of people vote for – we ‘get what we deserve’. Our Bills are passed into Law by the majority vote of our 120 MPs – and that may be by 61 MPs! That’s why we pray 1 Timothy 2:1-4. Our nation may be blessed, or suffer, by the outcome, and some laws are not changed for the better within the following decade or more, if at all.

For about 20 years, Prayer at Parliament (P @ P) has met three times a year in the Grand Hall of Parliament. Of course, what we need most is godly people who know Him, love Him, and follow Him; a “good” society is not enough.

In next week's *Prayer Update* we'll look at the Church (all true Christians), repentance, revival and evangelism – sharing the Gospel (the Good News of Jesus' coming)

Prayer Suggestions: **Pray** for P@P, ‘prayer warriors’, and all praying/interceding Christians and prayer groups – for revelation from God as to what to pray, and how to pray. **Pray** that we may lead a *quiet* and *peaceable* life in all *godliness* and *reverence*. **Pray** for God's Spirit to powerfully move in the Church, in Christian's lives, and throughout our nation and government, bringing many people to salvation and life-transformation that will reflect the Light of Jesus' life and teachings, throughout our whole society.